کیسز قائم کرتے ہیں۔ کیا اس کی سوچ آپ کے پاس ہے

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: Sir, Government does not institute cases but in the case of communal disharmony or discord or exciting communal passions, the PIB, the State Governments and the Chief Secretaries of the Union Territories are addressed. And from the Government side, there is a guideline when DAVP denies any financial support; otherwise, the Government does not institute any cases against them. It is left to the State Governments if they would like to do. There are provisions in the Press Council Act and in the Indian Penal Code and any individual can do it. In fact, I answered the question in part (a) and (b) of the answer. There were more than 30 cases last year, 1993-94, where complaints had been made to the Press Council and one of the complainants was admonished. That was also given as part of die answer.

श्री हाजी माबा सिंह : मान्यवर, मैं माननीय मंत्री के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह पूछना चाहता हूं कि उन्होंने अपने उत्तर में ऐसे 31 समाचार पत्रों का उल्लेख किया है जिनको चेतावनी दी गई है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि जो चेतावनी दी गई है वह किसके द्वारा दी गई है और क्या भारतीय प्रेस परिषद के द्वारा दी गई है ? साथ ही यह भी जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या अदालत में अभ्यारोप दाखिल करने का अधिकार भारतीय प्रेस परिषद को है ? यदि भारतीय प्रेस परिषद को अभ्यारोप दाखिल करने का अधिकार है, तो निश्चित रूप से कितने मामलों में अदालत ने दण्ड देने का काम किया है ? इसका भी विवरण भारतीय प्रेस परिषद के पास होगा। यदि नहीं है तो दण्ड देने के मामले में भारतीय प्रेस परिषद का अधिकार क्षेत्र क्या है ?

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: The Press Council of India is the body which admonishes or warns or censors. It does not institute cases. The Press Council-has a large number of functions which are there in the Press Council Act which was repealed in 1978. If you permit me. Sir, I will take a little time to go through the functions of the Press Council, if the hon. Members want me to do so. It is available in the Parliament Library.

†[ ] Transliteration in Arabic Script

MR CHAIRMAN: That should be enough.

SHRI K P SINGH DEO:There is subsection 2 of section 13 and there are ten other sub-sections which give the exact functioning of the Press Council. The powers are under section 14 of the Act The Press Council does not institute cases. It is a quasi-judicial body. It depends on the social and moral authority and self-regulation and not on punitive or deterrent provisions. It is not a parallel court of law.

Supply of Telephone Inatnuaeata

*503. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD :†
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state ;

(a) whether Government have since taken a decision to stop supplying instruments to telephone subscribers; and

(b) if so, the details and the reasons therefore ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU ON BEHALF OF THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) Sir. the proposal to discontinue the supply of telephone instruments to the subscribers is under active consideration of the Government.

SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD: Sir, it seems that the Minister is trying to give the reason as the so-called active consideration. Part (b) of my question is: "If so, the details and the reasons therefor?" The Government is considering the proposal when they are bound to give all the necessary details. The reply does not contain any of the details. Moreover, a customer cannot purchase the equipment or instrument In that case he has to buy it from the private market. The question is of providing repair and other services to the customers. If one department manages the communication wires and the other agency manages the instruments and the repairs, I think, it will lead to a lot of difficulties to the customers. There are vast areas in the villages where there is no facility and if the villagers want a new telephone connection they

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the Houses by Shri N. Giri Prasad.

cannot purchase the instrument The Govern-ment should seriously consider these problems. Why dont you keep all these things in mind before formulating your policy?

SHRl P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I entirely agree with the hon. Member. There are two sides to the coin. There are advantages as well as disadvantages. The hon. Member is pointing out the disadvantges with which I agree. That is exactly the reason why we said the Government is still considering it We have not yet taken any decision. As regards details. Sir, we give details after the decision taken. Normally these details are not given More the final decision.

SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD: Sir. according to the newspapers, itseems that the Government has not clearly spelt out the new telecom policy. Perhaps, it may be a part of it One of the ingredients of this telecom policy is to privatise and invite multinationals. As far as I know, no country anywhere in the world has allowed foreign companies to enter the telecom field. But the Government of India is considering it There may be seven or eight countries where telecom service might have been privatised. Perhaps, supply of telephone instruments to the private sector may be a part of the same policy. Now, a lot of cacophony is going on between the Minister and the Secretary. The Prime Minister is also playing some moderate role. Against this background, is it not the policy of the Government to place all such matters connected with the telecom policy, before the Parliament ? Why is the Governments not taking the people into confidence before formulating such a policy?

SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU:Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all, I would like to assure the hon. Member that so far the Government has not" taken any decision to handover any telecom service to any foreign company. At the moment we are importing certain equipments which are for the telephone exchnages in this country. We have adopted six technologies of different countries in the world. So, the question of handing over the telephone services to the private sector deos not arise. I can assure you mat there is no such proposal. As far as non-supply of telephones is concerned, this is not a part of that proposal. There is no such thinking on the part of the Government that the Supply and Telephone Instruments would be handed over to some multinationls or foreign companies. We have got enough capacity within India to produce telephone instruments. If I remember rightly, we have a capacity of 40 lakh telephone instruments in the country. It would meet the local requirements. There is no need for us to import telephone instruments. In fact we are exporting instruments telephone to other countries.

जगन्नाथ सरकारी : सभापति महोदय, हम मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहते हैं कि अगर आप निजीकरण की प्रक्रिया नहीं अपनाना चाहते हैं या विदेशी कम्पनी को नहीं देना चाहते हैं तो आपका विभाग ग्राहकों को जो रुपया डिपाजिट कर रखा है 1992 से, मैं गया की बात कर रहा हूं, बिहार के गया शहर की, कोई देहात की बात नहीं कर रहा हूं। तो गया शहर में 1991-92 से ही लोगों ने रुपया जमा किया है और आपका विभाग टेलीफोन नहीं दे रहा है।

देखिए अगर 3-4 बरस में भी कंज्यूमर को आप सप्लाई नहीं करते हैं तो इसका मतलब है कि आपकी कोई नीति नहीं है और नीति अगर है तो आप अपने ही इस टेलीफोन उद्योग को बदनाम करके बहुराष्ट्रीय कम्पनी को देना चाहते हैं, इस सम्बन्ध में आप अपनी स्थिति स्पष्ट करें।

شری جلال الدین انصاری: ادھیکش مہودے۔
ہم منتری مہودے سے جاننا چاہتے ہیں کہ اگر
یہ نجی کرن کی پریکریہ نہیں اپنانا چاہتے ہیں یا
ودیشی کمپنی کو نہیں دینا چاہتے ہیں تو آپ کا
جو وبھاگ ہے۔ گراہکوں نے جو روپیہ ڈپازٹ
کر رکھا ہے ۱۹۹۲ سے۔ میں گیا کی بات کر رہا
ہوں۔ بہار کے گیا شہر کی۔ کوئی دیہات کی بات
نہیں کر رہا ہوں۔ تو گیا شہر میں ۹۲-۱۹۹۱ سے
ہی لوگوں نے روپیہ جمع کیا ہوا ہے اور ان کا
وبھاگ ٹیلیفون نہیں دے رہا ہے۔
دیکھیے اگر ۴-۳ برس میں بھی کنزیومر کو
آپ سپلائی نہیں کرتے ہیں۔ تو اس کا مطلب
ہے کہ آپ کی کوئی نیتی نہیں ہے اور نیتی اگر
ہے تو آپ اپنے ہی اس ٹیلیفون ادھیوگ

کو بدنام کر کے بیورا شٹر یہ کیبنٹ کو دینا چاہتے ہیں۔ اس سمبندھ میں آپ اپنی آشنکتی پیشٹ کریں۔

SHRI P. V. RANGAYYANAIDU : Sir, I cannot say what the situation in Gaya is. At the moment, we are having a sufficient number of telephone instruments. It is possible that telephone lines may not be available. I don't think that the Telehone Department has failed to supply telephone instruments. There may be shortage of telephone lines. If they are waiting for telephones only since 1992.1 think they are lucky. There are people who are waiting since 1989 in other cities. (*Interruptions).* Listen to me. There is a huge waiting list of nearly 24 lakh subscribers throughout the country. All of them have deposited the money. Some of them are waiting for the last six to seven years.

We are trying to clear the pending cases as early as possible. Last year, we gave about 11 lakh direct connections and in the current year, we intend giving 20 to 25 lakh connectous. So. with this policy of extending our facilities, we will be able to clear the waiting list throughout the country. And, Sir, I will definitely look into the cases relating to Gaya. And if the hon. Member has a specific problem relating to Gaya, he may bring it to my notice.

श्री जगदीश्वर सिंह भण्डारी : वेटिंग लिस्ट के लोड को खत्म करने के लिए आप का विभाग कौन-सी कार्यवाही करने जा रही है, यह ते जवाब दें।

SHRl P. V. RANGAYYANAIDU: Sir, I said that we were using imported technology in major cities and also utilising the internal production. We have an internal production of about 10 lakh lines in this country. So, the balance were imported last year. This year also, we are going to import and also take lines from foreign companies on lease. So, by utlising the additional capacity from outside, in big cities we should be able to release most of the indigenous production to other places and meet the demand for telephones in towns as well as rural areas.

†[ ]Transliteration in Arabic Script.

श्री सुन्दर सिंह भण्डारी : सभापति महोदय, मंत्री महोदय ने यह माना है कि लाखों आप्लीकेशंस पैंडिंग हैं और उनका पैसा भी जमा है। अब उस पैसे पर जो ब्याज होना चाहिए, वह ते आप नहीं देते। मेरा आप से यह निवेदन है कि क्या हर जगह के लिए कोई मेक्सिमम लिमिट पैंडिंग टेलीफोन्स की आप तय कर सकते हैं और यह इंश्योर कर सकते हैं कि एक साल के अंदर इन टेलीफोन्स का हम कनेक्शन देंगे अथवा जो रुपया जमा है उस पर ब्याज देंगे, क्या आप ऐसा ऐश्योरेंस देंगे ?

SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: Sir, at the moment, interest is being paid *(Interruptions).* Interest is paid if registration is done .... (*Interruptions).*

श्री मुरासोली मारन : इन को मूल धन से ब्याज ज्यादा अच्छा लगता है।. . . (व्यवधान)

SHRI P. V. RANGAYYANAIDU: Interest is being given on deposits for telephones under the non-OYT category.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN : How much interest are you giving? *(Interruptions)* What is the percentage? *(Interruptions).*

DR MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: What is the procedure for giving this interest?

MR CHAIRMAN: It is interesting that interest is given. . . *(Interruptions).*

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Are they giving interest? I don't think that they are giving any interest (*Interruptions).*

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Sir, there should be a telephone line between the Official Gallery and the Minister.

SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : Interest is given at the bank rate and this is adjusted at the time of the installation of telephones It is dene by deducting interest out of the total charges . *(Interruptions).*

DR MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:It has ttever been done.

SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI: Sir, if that is the case, will the Minister let us know how much interest is adjusted against the total charges? Will he place a statement regarding this on the floor of the House?

SHRl P V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: I will write to you.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN Sir. the Department levies Rs. 330 as rental charges on telephones. Now, the Department asks for security deposits without interest; the Department asks for installation charges and the Department asks for per-call charges. Then, what an these rental charges for? And, under the new policy, if I purchase my own instrument, will I be exempt, as a customer, from the monthly rental charges? So, I would like to know what the rationale is behind imposing rental charges when I am paying the rent

SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU The installation charges are one time charges. They are charged only at the time of installation of me telephone as financial cost of telephone wiring and other things. The security deposit is initially to register the demand and subsequently it is kept as deposit against payment of bills in future so that, if the subscriber fails to pay, me security deposit can be forfeited. The rental charges are not purely rental, but they are also giving 150 calls free during a period of two months

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: They are not free. If they are against my rental charges, then do not call them free charges. You are charging me for them. You are charging Rs. 330 for my calls. If it is not rent; then you are charging for all my calls. They are not free calls. If you call. free calls, then give me free. *(Interruptions).*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please listen.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Sir. then should be a hot-line between the Minister and the Official Gallery.

SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : Sir. the rental includes 150 free calls. 150 free calls is a component of the rental.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : What is the other component other than the 150 calls. What is the other component for which you are charging? I should know that as a customer. *(JntemptionsX*

SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: It is there from the beginning. I can give the philosophy or the reason behind the rental charges. *(Jnterruptons).* On an average every telepohne line given costs Rs. 40,000 to the Government So, the rental is a part of . . .

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Then you say installation charge of my telephone connection is Rs. 40,000. You cannot call it a rental charge.

SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU : O. K. We will change the nomenclature.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Sir, this is a solemn promise, because we have filed a case in the court against the Department on this point These rental charges are a fraud. You are not giving any service against these rental charges. So, no rental charges should be taken from the customers. Charge of Rs. 330 against 150 free call is a fraud on the customer. The Department is collecting this amount for nothing. For the rest of the services we are paying at every point

SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI: It is a question of scrapping the whole amount

MR, CHAIRMAN : Do you want to answer ? Fortunately, you have the Minister in charge before you.

SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU: As the member has said, the matter is pending in the court; let us await the judgment.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Sir. Pramod has been ringing the wrong number. He is not the Minister.

Setting *up* of Fifth Pay Commission

504 SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA
SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Union Gevemment has announced the setting up of the Fifth Pay Commission for the Central Government employees and its pensioners;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the names of its Chairman and Members and its terms of reference; and

(c) by when the commission is likely to submit its report and recommendations to Government?